

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An injection device, comprising:  
an outer housing inside which is located:  
a barrel for holding a dose of a medicament;  
a needle at one end the barrel, the needle and barrel being such that at least part of the needle is axially moveable in and out of said outer housing but is biased to be normally wholly inside said housing;  
a plunger, axially moveable within the barrel;  
an inner housing intermediate the outer housing and the barrel and plunger; and  
an energy source in communication with said inner housing,  
wherein the inner housing is moveable by the energy source [[in]] and operates in  
three modes, namely  
a first mode in which the inner housing is in contact with and acts on the barrel such that, in use, the plunger and barrel move ~~are movable~~ axially so as to move at least part of said needle out of the outer housing;  
a second mode in which the inner housing is in contact with and acts on the plunger to move the plunger axially but not the barrel such that, in use, said plunger moves ~~is movable~~ axially into said barrel so as to expel medicament through the needle; and  
a third mode in which the inner housing acts on neither the plunger nor the barrel such that, in use, the plunger and barrel are able to retract in order to retract the needle into the outer housing.
2. (Original) An injection device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said inner housing includes one or more flexible tags, biased radially inwardly by communication with said outer housing.

3. (Original) An injection device as claimed in claim 2 wherein one or more of said tags are situated at the rear end of the inner housing and are biased radially inwardly into communication with the plunger.

4. (Original) An injection device as claimed in claim 3 wherein each rear tag is moveable out of communication with the plunger when aligned with a corresponding recess in the outer housing.

5. (Original) An injection device as claimed in claim 4 wherein each rear tag is substantially T-shaped.

6. (Original) An injection device as claimed in claim 2 wherein one or more of said tags are situated at the forward end of the inner housing and are biased radially inwardly into communication with the barrel.

7. (Original) An injection device as claimed in claim 6 wherein each forward tag is moveable out of communication with the barrel when aligned with a corresponding recess in the outer housing.

8. (Currently Amended) An injection device as claimed in claim 7 wherein each forward rear tag is substantially L-shaped.

9. (Previously Presented) An injection device as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said energy source is a compressed gas.

10. (Previously Presented) An injection device as claimed in Claim 1 further including means for allowing the inner housing to move axially only forward with respect to the outer housing.

11. (Original) An injection device as claimed in claim 10 wherein said means is an arrangement of serrations intermediate the housings.

12. (Previously Presented) An injection device as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said needle is biased to be normally wholly inside said housing by means of a spring intermediate the barrel and the outer housing.

13. (Previously Presented) An injection device as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said needle, barrel and plunger are removable from said device.

14. (Previously Presented) An injection device as claimed in Claim 1 further including a removable needle cover which protects the needle during storage before use.

15. (Original) An injection device as claimed in claim 14 wherein said needle cover includes means for pulling a protective rubber sheath or the like from said needle when said needle cover is removed from the device.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method of delivering an injection, comprising the steps of:

providing an injection device comprising:

a barrel for holding a dose of a medicament;

a needle at one end the barrel, the needle and barrel being such that at least part of the needle is axially moveable in and out of a outer housing but is biased to be normally wholly inside the outer housing;

a plunger, axially moveable within the barrel;

an inner housing intermediate the outer housing and the barrel and plunger; and

an energy source which acts on the inner housing;

activating the energy source;

~~moving the inner housing by means of the energy source;~~

~~in a first mode, engaging the barrel with the inner housing and~~ moving the barrel and the plunger axially in a first direction by means of the inner housing, wherein at least a part of the needle is moved out of the outer housing;

~~after moving the barrel and the plunger axially in the first direction, in a second mode, preventing further axial movement of the barrel in the first direction while engaging the plunger with the inner housing and~~ moving the plunger axially in the first direction by means of the inner housing, wherein the plunger moves into the barrel causing medicament to be expelled through the needle, ~~and wherein the barrel is not moved by the inner housing, wherein the inner housing acts on neither the plunger nor the barrel;~~

~~after causing medicament to be expelled through the needle, in a third mode, disengaging the inner housing from the barrel and the plunger and retracting allowing the needle into to~~ retract to its biased position wholly inside the outer housing.